DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

BUREAU OF SANITATION
BOARD REPORT NO. 1
April 6, 2012

CD: 6

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD
PUBLIC WORKS OF THE CITY
of Los Angeles California
AND REFERRED TO THE MAYOR
APR - 6 2012
AND REFERRED TO THE CITY COUNCIL
Executive Officer

AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND COUNCIL FOR WATERSHED HEALTH FOR THE ELMER AVENUE PASEO PROJECT (W.O. EW40045F)

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Approve and forward this report forthwith, with its transmittal, to the Mayor and the City Council, with the recommendation that the City Council, subject to concurrence of the Mayor, authorize the President or two members of the Board of Public Works (Board) to execute the proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Los Angeles (City) and Council for Watershed Health (CWH) for the Elmer Avenue Paseo Project (Project).

2. Notify Mr. Gustavo Orozco (213-485-3979) or Mr. Steven Nikaido (213-485-0578) of the Bureau of Sanitation, Watershed Protection Division (WPD) when the MOU is ready to be executed by the Board, whereupon five (5) original documents will be delivered to the Secretary of the Board for execution.

3. Upon execution, request the City Clerk to attest and certify the five (5) original copies of the MOU. The City Clerk and the Board each are to retain one original copy, and return the remaining copies to the Bureau of Sanitation, WPD.

TRANSMITTAL

Copy of the MOU between the City and CWH for the Elmer Avenue Paseo and Neighborhood Improvements Project.

DISCUSSION

The purpose of the MOU is to establish an agreement between the City and CWH for the Project to provide CWH with funds in the amount of $129,000 from the City's Proposition O Program as a match to the Federal, State, and regional funding of $546,806 that CWH has secured to implement the Project in a City-owned parcel.

Urban runoff carries pollutants such as bacteria, metals, oil and grease, impairing the quality of receiving waterbodies. The City and CWH recognize the need to improve water quality in the Los Angeles region, provide resilient water supplies by recharging aquifers, reduce flooding impacts, protect compatible beneficial uses, and improve neighborhood quality of life.

The primary tools for reducing runoff pollution are usually referred to as BMPs (Best Management Practices). The neighborhood surrounding the 7700 block of Elmer Avenue lacks public green space and has significant runoff and public safety issues when it rains. This is an ideal location to build a project which demonstrates new and innovative stormwater BMPs with multiple benefits including, but not limited to, improving water quality, increasing local water supplies, reducing flood impacts, increasing native habitat, and improving neighborhood quality of life.

Phase I of the Elmer Avenue Neighborhood Retrofit project included the installation of infiltration galleries underneath the street, bio-swales and street trees within the public right-of-way, and permeable pavers, drip irrigation, drought tolerant plantings, rock swales, rain barrels, and solar street lighting along private property. These multiple BMPs address the run-on to and run-off from the 7700 block of Elmer Avenue. At the southern end of the Phase I project, another 20 acres of sub-watershed from adjacent streets drains to a City-owned parcel (APN: 2315-010-900), referred to as Elmer Ave. Paseo, without any improvements to address stormwater concerns. The parcel is located between Keswick Street and Lull Street in the neighborhood of Sun Valley. Elmer Ave. Paseo will take advantage of the opportunity to build upon the successes and knowledge gained from the first phase and will install sustainable solutions, such as swales, permeable materials, drought tolerant plantings, and educational signage that will provide additional water quality benefits, augment groundwater supplies, and increase open space and amenities for the neighborhood. The estimated cost of the Project is $675,806.

Elmer Avenue Phase II, Elmer Avenue Paseo

CWH has received funding from the California Strategic Growth Council ($294,395), from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy ($127,411), and from the Los Angeles Water and Power ($125,000) for a total funding amount of $546,806. The remaining $129,000 will be provided by Proposition "O" Funding.

Through this partnership, the City and CWH can make a significant difference for the residents of the surrounding Elmer Avenue Neighborhood and complete a demonstration project that will serve as a template for future neighborhood retrofits throughout the Los Angeles region. Much-needed improvements to City infrastructure can be realized along the Elmer Ave. Paseo and surrounding area to benefit receiving water quality, provide four acre-feet annually of additional groundwater supplies, and increase open space and amenities for the neighborhood.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The Project will not impact the City's General Fund. The City will provide $129,000 of direct funding from the City's Proposition O Program as a match to the Federal, State, and regional funding of $546,806 that has been secured by CWH.

PROJECT SCHEDULE
The key phases of the Project and the corresponding anticipated dates of completion are:

1. Design – May 2012
2. Construction – September 2012
3. Monitoring – October 2012 to April 2013

PROJECT ADMINISTRATION
The MOU will be administered by WPD of the Bureau of Sanitation. Mr. Kendrick Okuda, Proposition "O" Program Manager has reviewed and approved this MOU and Board Report.

APPROVAL AS TO FORM
The MOU has been reviewed by Mr. John Carvalho, Assistant City Attorney of the City Attorney's Office, and has been approved as to form.

STATUS OF FINANCING
Funds in the amount of $129,000 are available in Fund No. 16V, Department 50, Account No. 50HYAA. Ms. Monique Parker, Proposition "O" Financial Manager has reviewed and approved the Status of Financing.

Respectfully submitted,

ENRIQUE C.ZALDIVAR, Director
Bureau of Sanitation

Approved as to Funds:

VICTORIA A. SANTIAGO, Director
Office of Accounting
Date 4/3/12

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